

# THE LANCASTER NEWS

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Editor and Manager

The News is not responsible for the  
views of correspondents. Short and  
rational articles on topics of general  
interest will be gladly received.

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FRIDAY, FEB. 7, 1919.



"My Country 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Land  
of Liberty."

## SENTENCE SERMONS.

Enthusiasm is the genius of sincerity, and no victories are gained without it.—Bulwer.

Men are like fish. Neither would get into trouble if they kept their mouth shut.—Hunter.

True bravery is shown by performing without witnesses what one might be capable of doing before all the world.—La Rochefoucauld.

I go at what I am about as if there was nothing else in the world for the time being. That is the secret of all success.—Kingsley.

The object of the theatre is to teach us, not what this or that particular person has done, but what every person under certain circumstances would do.—Lessing.

## EDITORIALETTES.

At least history will profit by the placing of responsibility for the war.

The legislature has been a month at it already and what it hasn't done would fill a good many newspaper columns.

It hardly seems possible that a man who can build Fords can also write poetry. The man who drives them can't.

North Main street, so far as the authorities appear concerned in the health of the community, is "No Man's Land."

If there are any opposed to good roads let them drive a car from Lancaster to Charlotte as a convincing argument.

We don't know whether Mr. Wilson is getting things his own way over across the sea but we remember how things went in this country.

The hog and hominy doctrine has been the salvation of many farmers and the pity is that more of them have not been made to see the light.

Certainly the fellow who doesn't own an automobile will support the good roads scheme, but there won't be any such fellow after the roads are built.

Well, a lot of people complained of our "unpreparedness" and were justified in a measure, but these same people could hardly now be expected to oppose a big navy.

There may be two kinds of live wires, one that goes silently about its work and one that makes a great splutter and is deadly, but neither is worse than the one which is not connected up with the power plant and is of no use in any way.

There may have been a few scoundrels among the American troops in France who didn't care much for their reputation, but to say that a crime wave is attributable to the American soldiers is to make the indictment most too general.

## IF TRUE, PRETTY BAD.

The News is inclined to discount the stories carried by French newspapers to the effect that the American soldiers in France have been guilty of 34 murders, 244 hold-ups and numerous small crimes constituting a veritable crime wave. It is quite true that the American soldier's uniform does not make a man, and it is doubtless quite as true that among the two million men sent over seas were some whose standards were not what they should be. Out of a collection of men in this country to that number it is perhaps likely that several criminals would be found. But the statement that a crime wave in Paris was due to the American soldiers did not stir this country for the reason that it appeared doubtful from the first. If an American should kill a Frenchman in a drunken brawl, it would be regrettable, but Americans kill Americans every day that way. Hold-ups occur quite frequently in this country, and the soldiery in France is made up of the same people who make up the civilian population. If the American soldiers committed a goodly number of crimes in France, it was no more than their brothers were doing back here at home.

But nobody believes the American soldiers have been guilty of wholesale crimes overseas, and the Associated Press, a reliable news-gathering agency, has completed an investigation of the matter and finds that the 34 murders reported dwindled to two, and that the hold-ups were multiplied by four. Whatever may be said of the two million men who kept the iron hoof out of Paris it cannot be said they were ruffians or roughnecks or criminals, though a few in the lot may have wandered from the path of righteousness to such extent as shooting a game of craps or betting on the races, but when it comes down to bloody murder the proportion in France in which Americans are involved will hardly exceed that of this country.

We may hear a good many sensational stories of the war now that the censor has been relieved of his job, and that goes to show that the censorship was worth while.

## THE DOG.

Representative Hollis Horton's dog bill in the legislature is all right, so far as we are concerned, but the trouble with all these bills in the legislature looking to the extermination of the "yaller cur" is that you can't always say they are fair. It is unquestionably true that the dog is man's best friend, and a bill designed to tax dogs is so likely to deprive some poor soul of the companionship of his pet and at the same time fall lightly upon some other persons, that it is close kin to class legislation. Admitted there are many worthless dogs. Yet every one of these dogs belong to somebody and perhaps somebody who would miss greatly its friendship, and who perhaps is not possessed of worldly goods to an extent justifying a heavy tax for the enjoyment of that friendship.

To tax dogs means that those who are able to pay may have them and those who are unable may not, while the latter, more than likely, is more in need of the dog than the former. There ought to be and there is already certain regulations about dogs, principally applying to their running at large. More attention should be paid to the regulations and less to the side of the question looking to revenue. It is as much a crime to mistreat a dog as to mistreat any other animal, but the laws referring to all cruelty to animals appears to have been left upon the shelves of those charged with their enforcement until dust and the natural consequences of age have so dimmed the lines as to render them almost unintelligible. For instance, we have the mail wagon horse; The News is not advised, and does not care to be, who owns this particular animal, but doubts not if the government were aware of its condition, it would have to quit hauling the

government mail. But there seems to be no one whose duty it is to enforce the laws generally known as S. P. C. A. laws, and the cruelty goes on. There are many who believe that because a horse or a dog belongs to them they are permitted to treat it as they wish to. These should be taught and those who maliciously mistreat dumb animals should be prosecuted.

The dog ought to have protection along with the privilege of paying tax. And the man who carelessly runs over a dog with an automobile ought to pay for it. A man gets police protection and fire protection for the tax he pays. Uncle Hollis ought to look at this dog law from both sides.

## THE MYSTERY OF INFLUENZA.

Many physicians in different parts of the country have admitted that they know little of influenza. It seems to be a mystery that has baffled the medical science, though experiments with the disease have not extended over such period of time as would show conclusively the worth of the preventive measures which have been taken. Scientists all over the world, in combating the spread of influenza, have proceeded on the assumption that the disease is transmitted chiefly by contact with infected persons, by coughing, spitting and sneezing. The theory has been that the mucus thrown out by these acts is filled with the germs of influenza which find lodgment in healthy tissues. Experiments seem to indicate strongly that this theory is correct, and it is generally accepted that most other respiratory diseases are so carried from one to another.

This theory is generally accepted and is no doubt true, but there is some doubt as to whether influenza follows a cold, or, that a cold is in reality a forerunner of influenza. Doubtless many cases of influenza have developed through the fact that the infected persons believed they were only afflicted with a cold, of more or less severity, and neglected to take treatment until it had developed into influenza, with pneumonia just around the corner. Experiments have been made as to contraction of the disease and the result does not fully justify the theory outlined above. One hundred men in the United States navy at Boston and San Francisco volunteered for the purpose and submitted to every possible method of infection with influenza germs through the nose and throat. These men risked their lives for the general good and for the advancement of science and went through a singularly trying and repulsive ordeal. Every one believed that they were being inoculated with the dread disease which has destroyed more lives in America than the total number of fatal casualties among the American forces in the war. Their heroism is fully equal to that displayed some years ago by the men of the army medical corps who exposed themselves in Cuba to the bites of mosquitoes to determine finally whether yellow fever was transmitted by that insect. The difference in the two experiments was in the result. In the case of the yellow fever experiment some of the officers contracted the disease and one died, thus establishing the soundness of the theory that the mosquito carried the germs from infected persons to healthy ones, while in the case of the influenza experiment, not one of the 100 men developed any symptoms of the disease.

Scientists find in this negative result an astounding situation, but this should not tempt anyone to be careless in the matter of coughing and sneezing or in exposing himself to infection. Officials of the public health service point out that it may be that the germs of influenza disappear as soon as or immediately after the symptoms appear, as in the case of measles; when the germs which cause the disease are gone within five or six days after the appearance of the rash and the case

is no longer contagious. The discovery of this fact by Anderson and Goldberger, of the public health service, has led to shortening the quarantine for measles by more than half.

"These new experiments in the transmission of influenza," said Surgeon General Blue, "show how difficult is the influenza problem. They by no means indicate that we can afford to disregard coughing, sneezing and spitting as common means of spreading disease, and even in the case of influenza this source of infection should always be borne in mind. I believe, however, that we have not paid sufficient attention to other paths of infection, especially to the lips, mouth and hands. The fact that the disease was much less common in army camps where the sterilization of all eating utensils and dishes was rigidly enforced, shows the importance of the mouth as an avenue of infection."

In the face of these experiments the only thing which can be considered proved about the influenza so far is that it is still a mystery both as to the nature of its causative germ and as to its means of transmission, and therefore, especially dangerous. Authorities, however, still consider influenza a crowd disease, and all unnecessary gathering of people should be discouraged when influenza is prevalent in the community.

## SCISSORS AND PASTE.

Women on the School Board.  
(Charlotte Observer.)

In order to make sure the coming of commission government for Charlotte it was found necessary to arrange compromise in the matter of the city school administration. The board of 17 members was retained, and the principle of centralization and concentration of authority, therefore, has not been applied to the management of the school system. The present board has been doing well, but there is a growing sentiment that it could be reduced to the benefit of the service. Moreover, there is an increasing pressure in Charlotte for woman representation on the school board. It is being argued that the appointment of a board of five men would be about the right thing, and these five select two women to serve with them in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the public schools. This is a matter that will probably come under agitation during the spring municipal campaign.

## FINANCES.

(Philadelphia Record.)  
Interest and dividend payments this month, as compiled by The New York Journal of Commerce, will amount to \$356,000,000, which is \$18,000,000 more than a year ago. But the increase is due to the greater interest payments of the federal government. Dividends will be \$5,000,000 less than a year ago. Both railways and industrials show a decrease of dividends, but banks and trust companies show some increase.

## Australia's Threat.

(Charleston News and Courier.)  
The threat of Premier Hughes of Australia, that if Great Britain does not insist upon the annexation of German New Guinea to Australia the latter will become very angry with the mother country, is not to be taken too seriously. Mr. Hughes is a positive person, inclined to be very emphatic in his speech. Doubtless in this matter he is very much in earnest and doubtless the people of Australia are also very much in earnest. But at the end Australia is not going to stand out against the world even if New Zealand backs her up; and practically all the rest of the world has accepted President Wilson's plans for the colonies. Even South Africa, which at first objected strongly, seems to have come around.

But it is of much importance that Australia should not only come around but should do so willingly. We do not want any hard feeling to prevail there, or in any of the other British Dominions, towards the United States; and at present, apparently, some hard feeling exists. Australian spokesmen and organs have been asking why America, which lost fewer men in the war than Australia, should have anything to say about what Australia should do with the German lands she has taken with her blood. This indicates an undesirable temper. It should

## Statement of Condition of The Bank of Lancaster at the close of business Dec. 31, 1918.

### RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts . . . . .	\$ 671,312.77
Bonds . . . . .	190,600.00
Banking House. Furniture, Fixtures, Etc. . . . .	10,542.18
Cash on hand and due from Banks . . . . .	254,897.43
	\$1,127,352.38

### LIABILITIES.

Capital . . . . .	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus and Profits . . . . .	136,500.00
Dividends . . . . .	2,500.00
Deposits . . . . .	938,352.38
	\$1,127,352.38

be soothed, so that at the end of the run. But we cannot afford to leave peace conference America and the seeds of resentment and antagonism British Dominions may part as in the gallant Anzac breast.

### To Preach Here Sunday.

Rev. J. J. Taylor, of Leaksville, N. C., will preach at the First Baptist church in this city next Sunday for it. That risk we are willing to, morning at 11 o'clock.

# Announcement

We take pleasure in giving the date  
of the next visit of our

Op-tom-e-trist and Optician

# WEDNESDAY

# FEB. 12th

He has been making regular visits to  
our store for the past THREE YEARS  
and his work has proven entirely satisfactory. We solicit your continued  
patronage with a guarantee of satisfaction.  
Yours truly,

# Lancaster Drug Company

Lancaster, S. C.